

**A Resolution to the Massachusetts General Court  
and the Governor of the  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts from the Town of Walpole  
RESOLUTION**

Be it resolved that;

WHEREAS the current funding formula under Chapter 70 of the Massachusetts General Laws allocates state aid among the cities and towns of the Commonwealth unfairly;

WHEREAS we rank 247th of 329 school districts (with enrollment of at least 50 students) in per pupil Chapter 70 aid, we received only \$1213 per student from the state in FY06 which is 2.8 times lower than the statewide average of \$3,441 per student, while some districts receive as much as \$8800 per student;

WHEREAS Chapter 70 aid funds only 17% of our school budget, which is 2.56 times lower than the state average of 43.45%, such that Walpole spends only \$7,603 per student on K-12 education while the state average cost per student is \$8,591;

WHEREAS the Special Education component of our school budget has now reached 30% of the total school budget, with over \$400,000 in unbudgeted costs for FY07 due to unanticipated move-ins, which has resulted in drastic reductions/eliminations in regular education staff and services;

WHEREAS the town of Walpole has suffered significant reductions in other forms of local aid, such as lottery money, the highway fund, and additional assistance, in the amount of approximately \$334,089 per year since FY03, monies needed to support the day-to-day operations of the town;

NOW THEREFORE, the Walpole Representative Town Meeting Members hereby Petition the Legislature and the Governor to adopt legislation to restore Walpole's chapter 70 funding, at a minimum, back to the FY03 level of \$5,393,468;

NOW THEREFORE, the Walpole Representative Town Meeting Members hereby Petition the Legislature and the Governor to adopt legislation in relation to expansion of the Special Education Circuit Breaker;

NOW THEREFORE, the Walpole Representative Town Meeting Members hereby Petition the Legislature and the Governor to adopt legislation to restore the highway and additional assistance funding, at a minimum, to pre-FY03 levels; and

FURTHER, that the Town Clerk be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Governor and Our Legislators.